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habits on the part of these animals, for although I had dipped water from this spring in the daytime a number of times before, I had never captured or observed any salamanders. Also, it was surprising to me to find amphibians active so late in the autumn. And further, although it is well known that certain fish and amphibians can endure being frozen in ice, it seemed remarkable to me that this salamander could withstand such sudden changes in temperature incident to the freezing and thawing.

As I am not familiar with salamanders, I turned these specimens over to Miss Mary C. Dickerson, who identified them as Dusky Salamanders, *Desmognathus fuscus* (Raf.). The specimens are now preserved in the American Museum collections.

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NOTES ON SOME REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS OF PIKE COUNTY, PA.

From May 8 to 17, 1904, and May 7 to 14, 1905, the writer spent at Milford, Pa., giving courses of lectures on fish culture and fish and game protection to the Yale College of Forestry students. Besides the lectures, numerous field trips and excursions were taken with the classes, chiefly in the immediate vicinity of Milford, along the Delaware River down to below the bridge, about the mouth of Sawkill Creek, along Raymondskill Creek, and in the fields, woods and hillsides within a radius of three miles of the town. Two trips were made to Little Brink Pond in the western part of the county. Most attention was given to the plants, birds and mammals. The reptiles and amphibians observed were also noted. Following is a list of the species recorded: 1, *Thamnophis sirtalis*, Common Garter Snake. Two gotten at Little Brink Pond, May 14 (1904). 2, *Natrix sipedon*, Water Snake. One seen in Delaware River near the bridge near Milford, May 13 (1904), and one noted May 8, 10 and 11 (1905). 3, *Opheodrys aestivus*, Summer Green Snake; Green Whip Snake. One seen near Milford, May 11 (1905). 4, *Coluber constrictor*, Black Snake. One found dead south of Milford, May 15 (1904); May 10 (1905), one seen; others seen in various places about Milford by different members of the classes. 5, *Heterodon contortrix*, Spreading Adder. One gotten by Mr. W. B. Mattoon, May 8 (1904). 6, *Sceloporus undulatus*, Fence Lizard. One collected by Mr. Mattoon May 10 (1904). 7, *Clemmys insculpta*, Wood Turtle. Two fine examples found in a small meadow brook south of the creek at Milford, May 15, and another May 30 (1904), and one seen May 9 (1905). One October 18 (1905), Charles I. Hepner, of Reading, Pa., sent me a fine example of this species, and stated that "they are plentiful

in the community where this one was caught." 8, *Clemmys guttata*, Spotted Turtle. A turtle believed to be this species seen near the camp by Mr. Mattoon, May 15 (1904). 9, *Terrapene carolina*, Common Box Turtle. One found in the road near the camp, May 21 (1904), by Mr. H. R. Bristol. 10, *Eurycea rubra*, Red Salamander. One obtained by Mr. Mattoon May 16 (1904), and one seen May 11 (1905). 11, *Desmognathus fuscus*, Brown Salamander. Several young and larvae found May 15 and 16 (1904) in small brooks and pools. Eggs found near the camp by Dr. Graves May 10 (1904). 12, *Notophthalmus viridescens*, Pond Salamander. "Common Newt" and "Red Eft." One of the terrestrial form (*miniatus*) obtained by Mr. Mattoon May 11 (1904). Common in Little Brink Pond, May 14 (1904); a few seen elsewhere in creeks and ponds. Very abundant in Lake Mashipacong, May 8 (1904). 14, *Bufo americanus*, American Toad. Common in all suitable situations; examples seen daily. 15, *Rana palustris*, Pickerel Frog. Several noted May 11 and 16 (1904). 16, *Rana clamitans*, Green Frog. Common; several noted May 11 and 16 (1904).

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THE PRAIRIE RATTLER IN WESTERN AND CENTRAL NEW YORK.

The rediscovery of the prairie rattler in western New York and the extension of its range into central New York is worthy of note.

From records at hand, no specimens of *Sistrurus catenatus* have been recorded from western New York since 1853, when it was added to the faunal list by Gebhard, who received a specimen from Hon. Levi Fish of the town of Byron, N. Y., where it was taken in a white cedar swamp. DeKay in his "Fauna of New York" (42) describes this species as extra-limital. Nash ('08) in his "Vertebrates of Ontario," reports that they formerly occurred in the meadow lands at the western end of Lake Erie, but at that time were nearly extinct. For the last fifteen or twenty years the farmers in the vicinity of Bergen Swamp believed rattlers were present, but their identity was not known.

On June 2, 1917, while taking a botanical trip to the southeastern end of Bergen Swamp just beyond Bergen, N. Y., I had the opportunity to see two specimens of the prairie rattler, Dr. A. J. Eames of Cornell University, M. S. Baxter of Rochester Academy of Science, and myself, attracted by the fairly loud rattle of the snake, succeeded in taking one specimen, and I brought it back with me to the University Laboratory, where it was in captivity for a few days. The total length of the speci-